

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-01 H-01 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01
SP-02 MC-01 EB-04 EUR-08 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01
NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /064 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3913
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5884

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, LY, IT, US
SUBJECT: ITALIAN REQUEST FOR U.S. CONCURRENCE IN AIRCRAFT SALES
TO LIBYA

REF: A. STATE 070684, B. TRIPOLI 386

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF "PRO
MEMORIA", DATED 6 APRIL, HANDED TO EMBASSY BY MFA WITH
COMMENT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CONSIDERS IT MATTER OF "EXTREME
IMPORTANCE".

BEGIN TEXT: THE AERITALIA COMPANY HAS RECENTLY BEEN
ASKED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBYA ABOUT THE EVENTUAL
ACQUISITION OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT G-222 AND FIGHTER AIR-
CRAFT G. 91 Y. BOTH ARE EQUIPPED WITH ENGINES OF AMERICAN
PRODUCTION (GENERAL ELECTRIC, TYPE T 64 P4D AND J 85/13/A
RESPECTIVELY) AND THEREFORE THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS NECESSARY.
SUPPLYING THIS EQUIPMENT HOLDS PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FOR
ITALIAN INDUSTRY, ESPECIALLY IN THE
PRESENT DIFFICULT PHASE THROUGH WHICH IT IS PASSING
AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT IT IS NOT EASY TO FIND
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OTHER OUTLETS FOR AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION.
THE PROBLEM OF SUPPLYING THE AIRCRAFT REFERRED TO
TO LIBYA HAS BEEN CAREFULLY STUDIED BY THE ITALIAN
AUTHORITIES WHO HAVE REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT IF
(THEY) CANNOT BE SUPPLIED BY ITALY, ONE WOULD ONLY END
BY LEAVING THIS DELICATE SECTOR, AS WELL, TO THE SOVIETS
WHO ALREADY HAVE A DOMINANT ROLE IN SUPPLYING ARMS TO

LIBYA, OR TO SOME OTHER COUNTRY.

WE TRUST THAT THE AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES WILL CONSIDER IN THE LIGHT OF THESE ARGUMENTS THAT PROBLEM OF ASSENTING TO THE USE OF THE GE ENGINES FOR AERITALIA AIRCRAFT THAT WOULD BE EXPORTED TO LIBYA IN THE EVENT THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD ACTUALLY PLACE AN ORDER WITH AERITALIA. END TEXT.

2. ACCORDING TO A BRIEFING PAPER, DATED 31 MARCH, SENT TO THE EMBASSY BE AERITALIA, THE LIBYAN ORDER IS EXPECTED TO AMOUNT TO \$400 MILLION, THE LOSS OF WHICH WOULD HAVE "DIRECT CONSEQUENCES, NOT ONLY IN TERMS OF CURRENCY BUT ALSO OF EMPLOYMENT".

3. ALTHOUGH WE ARE ENTIRELY SYMPATHETIC TO THE PREDICAMENT OF THE ITALIAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY IN ITS ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP MARKETS. IT APPEARS THAT AS INDICATED IN THE DEPARTMENTS'S 70684, THE TRANSFER OF U.S. ENGINE EQUIPPED ITALIAN AIRCRAFT TO LIBYA FALLS CLEARLY WITHIN OUR RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO LIBYA BY THE U.S. OR THIRD COUNTRIES. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION AS IT AFFECTS THIS POSSIBLE SALE IN ORDER TO PERMIT AN EARLY REPLY TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 08-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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From: ROME
Handling Restrictions:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770474/aaaacmgo.tel
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